

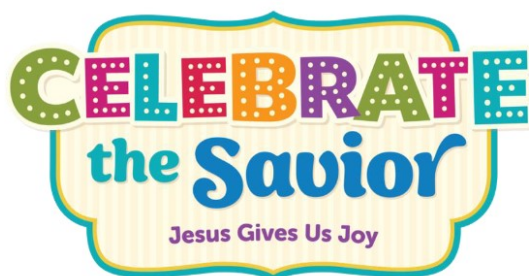
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 5 MAY 2024



VBS PRAYER PALS

As we celebrate all generations during this special anniversary year, we would like to bring together generations during our week of VBS. We are seeking adult members who would serve as VBS Prayer Pals. It's a hard job – pray, eat ice cream, eat a brunch buffet, and have a couple of conversations with an adorable child of God.

As a Prayer Pal you will:

Be assigned one child for the week of VBS;

Pray for the child daily during VBS week;

Join them for an ice cream social on the evening of July 25th

Join them for the brunch following church on Sunday, July 28th

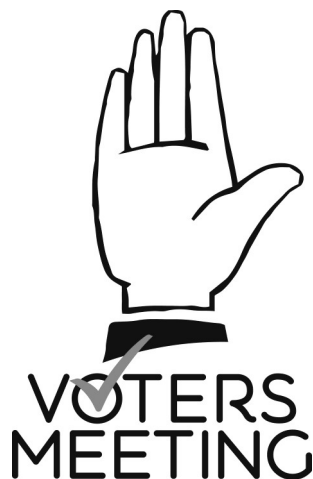


If you will partner to support a VBS student, please put your name on the back of a balloon and add it to the display in the narthex. Or let Shelley know, and she will get you signed up.

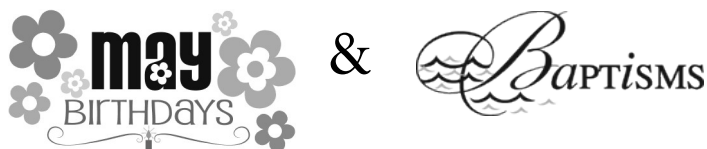
Thank you to everyone who is willing to support our youngest generation in this way!

PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).



QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING IS MAY 5, following Worship Service



BIRTHDAYS

1 Chris Hollman
2 Joshua Shore
3 Maureen Betts, Darleen Dittmer, Brady Hestermann
6 Ellie Koch
7 Lisa Nelson, Arlyn Wohl, Carsyn Ziemann
8 Claire Shore
10 Ken Behrens, Becky Dittmer
12 Terry Reetz
13 Elliott Reetz, Brent Wohl
14 Coen Ziemann
15 Marvin Nitzel
16 John Reitz
17 Doug Karl, Shirley Vosika, Anton Slama
18 Ron Kalkwarf
20 Diane Kahle
22 Jessie (Dittmer) Graff
23 Andrea Pomajzl

25 Marlene Wagner
26 Kirk Miller, Ethan Sublett
27 John Haufle, Tyler Stehlik
29 Michael Ellingson, Michael Gropp, Alex Munro
30 Dylan Wagner
31 Bob Renner

BAPTISMS

2 Brad Kalkwarf, Taylor Ziemann
4 Butch Mehl, Jennifer Meinke, Victoria Slama
6 Andrew Ellingson, Christina Rezac, Frank Slama, Sami Weber
8 Kourtlynn Reetz
12 Deb Nyhoff, Maura

Alexander
14 Jason Jordan, Kristi Reetz
15 Lee Miller, Erica Alexander
16 Jerome Kalkwarf, Dean Prochnow
17 Dominick Hensley, Chris Kirkpatrick, Lillian Kubicek, Janice Reetz, Pastor Maynard Toensing
18 Becky Dittmer, Chris Hollman
22 Arlyn Wohl
23 Ellie Koch, Brent Wohl
26 Jessica Trautman, Carsyn Ziemann
27 Terry Reetz, Terry Stehlik
28 Ron Kalkwarf, Josh Shore, Kaylie Brethouwer

OUR MISSION Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.



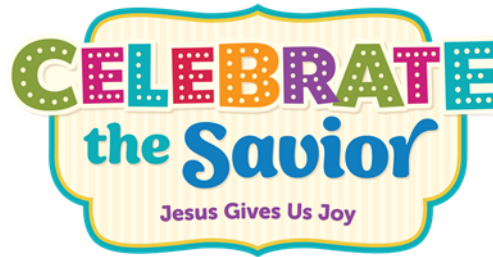
That All May Know Him

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

July 21-25, 2024

5:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Includes dinner!



Join us this year as we Celebrate the Savior and celebrate St. John's 150th Anniversary! Register online at:

<https://stjohnkramer.org/vbs.html>

LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid meeting was called to order on April 28th, 2024 by President Deb Walker. Pastor Toensing led us in opening prayer. Hymn # 744, "Amazing Grace" was sung followed by Bible study entitled "Suffering – based on Good News to lead us to repentance".

Roll call was taken with 9 members present with one guest, Chris Hollman. A motion was made and seconded to accept Chris as a new Ladies Aid member. Welcome Chris!

The minutes of March meeting were read and approved. The Treasurers report was read.

Deb Walker reported the Lenten luncheon provided by the Ladies Aid on March 20 served 30 people. The Ladies Aid will provide and serve Strawberry Shortcake following the Ascension Day worship on Thursday May 9th.

The new bulletin board is on display by Ellie Koch, with help from Marianne & Tom Randall.

Discussion was held concerning the anniversary luncheon to be held following the service on April 28th with Pastor Lyle Hansen as guest speaker.

Pastor Toensing and Donna Hilgren celebrated birthdays in April. We sang the Birthday song to Pastor. Roger and Ellie Koch celebrated their Anniversary in April. The Anniversary song was then sung to Ellie.

The hostess for our May meeting is Diane Kahle.

We closed our meeting with Lord's Prayer and the common Table Prayer.
Secretary, Bonnie Bleich



**CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATES!**

Skye Hoyer,
Crete High School

Madison Hestermann,
Crete High School

Hugo Pomajzl,
Wilber-Clatonia High School

Devon Reitz,
Concordia University Seward



Thank you!!

To everyone who helped in any way with the fundraiser for Bryan B. Thank you to all who volunteered, donated items, took flyers out to businesses, bid on items, donated funds, made desserts, etc.

Through all of your loving generosity, we were able to raise over \$10,000 to help with Bryan's medical expenses.

Special thanks to Brent Wohl for handling all of the food portion; and to Cindy Hoyer, Heidi Wohl, and Emma Hoyer for overseeing all of the auction portion. You made this the easiest event to lead ever!

MAIN STREET LIVING updates for May, 2024

"Main Street Living" is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, "This is the Life". Both can be viewed on KLKN Channel 8 (Lincoln) & WOWT Channel 6.2 (Omaha) Visit www.mainstreetliving.com/lincoln to view current and past episodes. This month we are excited to be adding pastors from central NE to the broadcast! Zion Lutheran in Kearney, NE hosted a recording for 8 area pastors, who will be airing throughout May and June.

May 5, 10:30 a.m...Rev. John Rasmussen, pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kearney, NE, presents a message titled "Christ Has Overcome!". This sermon is based on John 16:33.

May 12, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Nicholas Whitney, pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Amherst, NE, presents a message titled "Sanctified in Truth". This sermon is based on John 17:11b-19.

May 19, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Steve Schulz, from Mission Central in Mapleton, IA presents a message titled "The Spirit of Truth". The sermon is based on Acts 2:1-21

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
CHURCH –LCMS**

11400 W. Panama Road
Crete, NE 68333
4 miles East & 2 miles South of Crete
Office: 826-3883
secretarystjohn@hotmail.com
www.stjohnkramer.org
Rev. Maynard Toensing, Jr.
pastortoensing@gmail.com

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/LYF (Sundays –summer break 5/12)	10:30 a.m.
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Midweek Classes (Wednesdays–summer break after 5/8)	6:30 p.m.
Elder’s Meeting (May 6)	7:00 p.m.
150th Anniversary Committee Meet (May 7)	6:30 p.m.
Quilting Group (May 14 and 28)	9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (May 29)	2:00 p.m.

FROM THE ELDER’S

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you. Thank you for being you. Thank you for helping your neighbor. Thank you for taking care of yourself so that you CAN help your neighbor.

From the out pouring of love to support a young family of ours to the concern shown to neighbors during the recent storms, the truth of Proverbs 3:27 is exemplified.

“It is God’s job to place specific people in our lives that need help, and it is also his job to give us the resources to help those people.”

In Christ’s Love, The Elders

THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF MAY 2024

DUTY	5/5/24	5/9/24	5/12/24	5/19/24	5/26/24
Organist/Pianist	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller
Elders	Troy Henning	Doug Karl	Gary Meinke	Todd Hoyer	John Reitz
Greeters	Tom & Marianne Randall		Dean & Patricia Prochnow	Kelly & Kristi Reetz	Terry & Julie Reetz
Acolytes	Paisley Williams			Easton Brethouwer	



St. John Lutheran 150th Anniversary

“The Lord’s faithfulness continues

Recognition of our Veterans

Sunday, May 26

Hear from our veterans during Bible class and join us for a meal following.

Upcoming events

Sunday, June 30 – Recognition of our 40-65 yr old generation

Rev. John Heckmann as our guest preacher
Rev. Michael Heckmann as our guest liturgist

Sunday, July 28 – Recognition of our 0-13 yr old generation

VBS Sunday (this date is tentative)
Brunch potluck

Sunday, August 4 – Recognition of our 25-40 yr old generation

Rev. Joshua Hayes as our guest preacher

Sunday, October 13 – Formal Anniversary Celebration

Dr. Rev. Sommerfeld as our guest preacher
Meal following at Hallam Auditorium

Thank you to Rev. Lyle Hansen for being our guest Preacher in April, and to Ladies Aid for serving such a wonderful meal.

Church History

Did You Know...

The first church was furnished with debt, drought and grasshoppers hindering members. The pulpit was behind the altar and above it. Mr. M. Gerdes built the altar. A stove was located in the middle of the Church. Bride and groom parted at the stove as they came down to the altar to be married. At funerals the body would be viewed outside the church, and then committed to the ground, and then a service was held within the church.